Message Text

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2.1

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

SCCT-01 SY-05 AID-05 /068 W

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R 041520Z APR 75 FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6639 INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON AMCONSUL BELFAST

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E. O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PINT UK (N.I.) EI SUBJ: CEASE-FIRE IN DANGER

1. LOCAL PROVO-WATCHERS ARE TAKING FAIRLY SERIOUSLY THREATS BY PROVISIONAL IRA TO RESUME VIOLENCE IN NI.
NO ONE PRETENDS TO HAVE A GOOD INSIDE LINE INTO SINN FEIN/IRA DECISIONS. THEY ARE THOUGHT TO BE TAKEN BY A SMALL AND SECRETIVE GROUP OF MEN WHOSE PRECEPTS INCREASINGLY STRIKE THE PUBLIC AS FANTASIES. REPORTS OF A HWK/DOVE SPLIT ARE ACCEPTED AS IMPORTANT BUT ARE NOTHING NEW. POLITICIANS NATURALLY WISH TO SEE THE CEASEFIRE CONTINUE AT LEAST UNTIL AFTER CONVENTION ELECTIONS, SINCE A RENEWED PROVO CAMPAIGN COULD ONLY HELP PAISLEY AND OTHER HARDLINERS ON THE PROTESTANT SIDE.

2. POLITICIANS AND JOURNALISTS HERE THINK PROVOS' PROBLEM IS THAT THEY HAVE NOT SUCCEEDED IN CONVERTING THE CEASEFIRE INTO ANY POLITICAL GAINS. IF PEACE IS TO LAST, THE PROVO DOVES, SUCH AS THEY ARE, MUST BE SEEN TO HAVE SOMETHING TO SHOW FOR IT. MOST WORRISOME DEVELOPMENT IS PROVO DECISION NOT TO CONTEST NI ELECTIONS, PRESUMABLY BECAUSE PROVOS ARE NOT QUITE IRRATIONAL ENOUGH TO BELIEVE MANY PEOPLE WILL VOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FOR THEM.

3. OBSERVERS HERE GENERALLY HOPE THAT BRITISH WILL BE ABLE TO COME UP WITH SOME PROPOSAL THAT WILL GIVE PROVOS A REASON TO CONTINUE CEASEFIRE A LITTLE LONGER. THERE IS STILL A GREAT DEAL OF SKEPTICISM THAT CEASEFIRE WILL LAST INDEFINITELY.MOORE

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Message Attributes

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